Name of Supplier	Quantity (+/-5%)	Price (US S Per MT C & F (FO)
TOEPFER International. Asia, Singapore	128	328.95
RIAS Trading S.A., Switzerland	125	329.95
GRAND TOTAL:	5.11	Weighted Average Price is US $ 325.59 PMT C & F (FO)

Report Regarding American Wheat

†44. SHRI SHREEGOPAL WAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any report has been drafted regarding American wheat;

(b) whether any harmful elements have been found in the wheat;

(c) the reasons for preventing the publication of report; and

(d) the steps Government are contemplating to take to reject the consignment in case it is found to be harmful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) No specific report has been drafted regarding American wheat. However, as part of ongoing bilateral negotiations, plant health bilateral discussions were held with the United States of America (USA) in May, 2007. The discussions covered various bilateral matters, *inter-alia,* import of wheat and pulses into India from the USA. The request of the USA for relaxation of phytosanitary norms regarding tolerance levels of quarantine weed seeds in wheat consignments was not accepted by India, in view of likely threat of entry of quarantine weeds into the country, which do not exist presently in India.

(d) No import consignments, not conforming with the Phytosanitary specifications prescribed under Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 will be permitted entry into the country.

Import of wheat

† 45. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS. FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to import wheat to meet the requirement of safe storage of foodgrains in the country;

(b) if so, the date on which such decision was taken;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the price of wheat was 263 dollars per tonne in the international market at the time of taking the decision of such import by Government; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if not, the price of wheat at the time of taking the said decision and also at the time of procurement made by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS. FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was decided to import one million tons on 18.4.2007 and one million tons on 22.6.2007 in suitable tranches.

(c) The prices quoted in the international market on 18.4.2007 and 22.6.2007 are as follows:

Variety of wheat	Origin	Prices (S/ton. fob)	
		18.4.07	22.6.07
SRW	US	179	217
HRW	US	213	235
ASW	Australia	243	253
Up River	Argentina	213	-.242
St. Lawrence I CWRS 13.5%	Canada	240	269
EU Gr. I	France	226	237

Source: IGC Daily Monitor

A tender was floated by STC on 30.4.2007 for purchase of one million tons of wheat. The lowest price offered was US $ 263 per ton and highest price offered was US $ 302 per ton.

(d) Atender was floated on 26.6.2007 by STC for import of one million tons of wheat. Out of the offers received it was decided to purchase 5.11 lakh tons of wheat at prices given below:

Quantity — Lakh MT *(+1-5%)*	Prices (in US $)
128	317.95
0.65	324.10
0.65	327.1 0
128	328.95
125	329.95

The weighted average price of wheat is US $ 325.59 per ton C & F (FO)

Sugar industry in Karnataka

46. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the specific aspects of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) that India has entered into in respect of sugar;